



**Southside Economic Development Committee**

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

1:00 p.m.

Southern Virginia Higher Education Center

South Boston, Virginia

**APPEARANCES:**

Mr. Thomas W. Arthur, Chairman  
Senator Frank M. Ruff, Vice Chairman  
Mr. C. D. Bryant  
Mr. L. Jackson Hite  
Delegate Clarke N. Hogan  
Mr. Harrison A. Moody  
Mr. Edward Owens  
The Honorable Matt Erskine  
Mr. John T. Taylor  
Delegate Thomas C. Wright, Jr.

**COMMISSION STAFF:**

Carthan F. Currin, III - Executive Director  
Mr. Ned Stephenson - Manager of Strategic Investment  
Mr. Timothy J. Pfohl - Grants Program Administration Manager  
Ms. Britt Nelson - Grants Coordinator - Southside

**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL:**

Anne Marie Cushmac, Sr. Assistant Attorney General

MR. ARTHUR: Good afternoon, thank you all for coming. I want to call the meeting of the Southside Economic Development Committee into session. This is a very important session today for all of our communities, so we want to be very judicious and move it along, but at the same time I want to thank all of you for coming. There will be a point at the end of the meeting when you will have an opportunity to state any comments to this Committee that you would like to, hoping they will be complimentary, but maybe not necessarily. During

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1 the process, however, if there is a particular project that you have a particular interest in and  
2 there maybe something that is not according to Hoyle as far as you are concerned, while we are  
3 discussing it you will be given an opportunity to defend the project during the process. Then at  
4 the end we will be talking generally about what ever other comments you might have. Again,  
5 thank you for coming and taking part in this process.

6 Mr. Director, would you please call roll?

7 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Bryant?

8 MR. BRYANT: Here.

9 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Byron?

10 DELEGATE BYRON: (No response.)

11 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Hite?

12 MR. HITE: Here.

13 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Hogan?

14 DELEGATE HOGAN: Here.

15 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Moody?

16 MR. MOODY: Here.

17 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Owens?

18 MR. OWENS: Here.

19 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Taylor?

20 MR. TAYLOR: Here.

21 MR. CURRIN: Ms. Terry?

22 MS. TERRY: (No response.)

23 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Walker?

24 MR. WALKER: (No response.)

25 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Wright?

26 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Here.

27 MR. CURRIN: Deputy Secretary Erskine?

28 MR. ERSKINE: Here.

29 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Vice Chairman?

30 SENATOR RUFF: Here.

31 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Chairman?

32 MR. ARTHUR: Here. We have a quorum present, very good.

33 Do I have a motion to approve the Minutes of the last meeting?

34 I am sure everyone has them and has read them. Do you have any corrections or changes or  
35 deletions?

36 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, I move that they be accepted as sent.

37 MR. BRYANT: Second.

38 MR. ARTHUR: The motion is made and seconded that we approve the  
39 Minutes as they were sent. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor say aye? (Ayes.) All  
40 opposed? (No response.) The Minutes are approved.

41 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Chairman, at this time Mr. Pfohl, Grants Manager, is  
42 prepared to make his report to the Committee.

43 MR. PFOHL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, good afternoon to everyone. Just  
44 a quick overview of our process in implementing the Grants Program this time around. The

1 Grants Staff had an application workshop in this building in early February. These applications  
2 were received by the Commission March 1st. The Grants Management Staff reviewed these, and  
3 the Virginia Economic Development Partnership assisted us in that review. You have received  
4 summaries, Staff comments on each one of the projects, and a Staff recommendation. Hopefully  
5 you will have some time to go through these, and we will be happy to answer any questions the  
6 Committee members have on why the Staff took the positions that we did on these respective  
7 requests.

8 I'll turn it back to you, Mr. Chairman, and we can start working through the list.

9 MR. ARTHUR: I want to discuss the procedures here. Most of you, I  
10 think, have a copy of the synopsis of each of these requests which shows the Staff's  
11 recommendation and the amount of each area's allocation and how much they are approving on  
12 the draw-down. I don't see any other way to proceed rather than to go through these one at a  
13 time, because there are very few of them that were approved totally as requested, and there were  
14 some changes. Without any complaints we will go through these alphabetically, one at a time,  
15 and proceed from there unless I hear alternatives from anyone.

16 Okay, we'll proceed with the allocation requests and start with Amelia County. Their  
17 request was for one hundred fifty-four thousand nine hundred sixty-one as their total allocation,  
18 and it was for the Business Park Utility Expansion. The Staff recommended funding as proposed  
19 with no changes. Do I hear a motion on that?

20 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I move we accept the Committee's  
21 recommendation as presented.

22 MR. TAYLOR: I'll second it.

23 MR. ARTHUR: Motion is made and seconded, any discussion?

24 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, I guess the concern that we have is that  
25 we're trying to get everybody to use high speed capability in these parks, and I wonder if we  
26 could or should make this consideration that they include that when that was discussed.

27 MR. PFOHL: No, sir, the Amelia County Business Park is in the plan for  
28 the Mid-Atlantic Broadband Cooperative that the Technology Committee funded, and we assume  
29 that would be addressed under that project.

30 SENATOR RUFF: Even back into the park?

31 MR. PFOHL: Presumably, in that the principal objective of the Technology  
32 project that we funded with Mid-Atlantic Broadband is connected to the industrial park.  
33 Presumably that would get to the front entrance of the park, or the concept there would be the  
34 equipment, self-serve equipment, shelter. We felt the service provider could get in there and  
35 offer services within the industrial park.

36 DELEGATE HOGAN: Maybe what we should do along with something  
37 that Tim just said is approve this grant but direct Amelia to work together with Mid-Atlantic  
38 Broadband Cooperative to integrate this funding into that, and whatever they don't spend on the  
39 allocation next year there might be a deficiency along the line Senator Ruff talked about.

40 MR. ARTHUR: I certainly agree with you, would you like to make that  
41 motion as an amendment to this?

42 DELEGATE HOGAN: I'd move that Amelia County, in conjunction with  
43 Mid-Atlantic Broadband Cooperative, integrate this proposal into the broadband initiative to the  
44 extent that saves money, and we carry over to the following year.

1 MR. ARTHUR: Everybody understand that?

2 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I think that is a good idea. What you are saying is  
3 it would be more efficient and it would save money and Amelia would have their share of that  
4 appropriation carried over. I don't see anything wrong with it at all. I'll second that.

5 MR. ARTHUR: The motion is made and seconded to add an amendment or  
6 a contingency, actually, to the recommendation for funding. All in favor signify by saying aye?  
7 (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.) Add that contingency.

8 MR. PFOHL: Yes. Next is Appomattox.

9 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, I thought we had moved the  
10 recommendation and had it seconded.

11 MR. ARTHUR: Moved the recommendation and seconded, any further  
12 discussion? Hearing none, All in favor say aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.)

13 All right, Appomattox County, a request for thirty-one thousand ninety-six dollars for  
14 an IDA.

15 DELEGATE HOGAN: I move that.

16 MR. ARTHUR: The recommendation is moved.

17 SENATOR RUFF: Second.

18 MR. ARTHUR: The motion is made and seconded, any discussion? All in  
19 favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.)

20 Next is Bedford County Allocation, a request for eighty-three thousand two hundred  
21 seventy four dollars. They are requesting their total amount for up-grading a new technology  
22 park. Staff recommends funding as proposed. Does this follow along with the technology that  
23 we had on the first one?

24 SENATOR RUFF: I move we accept the recommendation of the Staff.

25 MR. ARTHUR: The motion is made to accept the recommendation as  
26 presented.

27 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Second.

28 MR. ARTHUR: The motion is made and seconded, any discussion? All in  
29 favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.)

30 The fourth one is Lawrenceville Infrastructure Improvements, a request for four  
31 hundred forty-eight thousand one hundred ninety. Staff recommends funding of seventy-five  
32 thousand for engineering and construction estimates. Does anyone want to discuss that? You  
33 may speak to that.

34 MS. FRENCH: I'm Joyce French. Lawrenceville Infrastructure Project is  
35 one that has been around, I'm with Lake Country Development Corporation, Southside Planning  
36 District. I've been around so long I take it for granted everyone knows who I am. The  
37 Lawrenceville Infrastructure Improvement is a sewer project that is related to St. Paul's College,  
38 and it has been around for several years now. It was originally put in as a special project, and as  
39 a result it was discussed with the Staff and Board members, and we were advised to come in  
40 under the county allocation for this project, since a lot of discussion and work has been done.  
41 Normally I would say there is no problem with doing the engineering and design first, and  
42 normally it would be. Under the particular project there is an Omnibus Appropriations Bill  
43 allocation that has already been awarded in the amount of three hundred fifteen thousand. That  
44 money has to be matched dollar for dollar. It is my understanding that money has to be

1 expended by the end of 2005. The construction period for this project is a year; so, at best with  
2 no bad weather it would be July of '05 when the construction would be through. The problem is  
3 that we're risking the three hundred fifteen thousand that has already been approved by the  
4 federal government. So we're asking that you reconsider and fund the project so that  
5 construction can get under way. The engineers have been working on it, and they haven't done  
6 any final design but preliminary work for about two years, and they are very familiar with the  
7 situation. The lines are currently owned by St. Paul's College, and they would now be owned by  
8 the Town of Lawrenceville. The college can't expand, and they can't fill vacancies that bring on  
9 new students because of their inflow, because of the current problems they have with the system.  
10 It has stifled them economically for any growth there at the college. In addition, it is causing a  
11 significant problem for the Town of Lawrenceville having to treat the inflow and infiltration that  
12 is coming in. So the solution, St. Paul's College represents a huge economic impact in  
13 Lawrenceville, is to have the town take it over and put in the lines that they will own so that they  
14 can allow that college to grow and make sure the lines are maintained, because the college has  
15 not been equipped for years to take care of their own system. The town will do that, and thereby  
16 they will be able to fill vacancies and increase their enrollment. Right now they are prohibited  
17 from doing that because of the sewer situation.

18 MR. ARTHUR: Thank you, Ms. French. Tim, would you like to give us an  
19 update?

20 MR. PFOHL: The Committee's decision was that the project design was  
21 listed in the application as a ninety-day period beginning this summer and carrying through until  
22 the fall, so we felt like we could assist in funding of design and that construction estimates would  
23 be available for the second round of the Southside Economic Development grant cycle, that we  
24 could come back with this and invite a proposal for construction on the second round.

25 MS. FRENCH: That seems to create more work for us writing the grant.

26 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, over the course of the last several years I  
27 have looked at that situation several times, and they have a mess. St. Paul's College is struggling  
28 with the facilities, and they don't have the resources to invest in infrastructure like this. The  
29 town has declining population and cannot go out on any limb. From what I have just heard Tim  
30 say, we probably will end up doing it, and the question is how do we get from here to there. I  
31 have faith that everyone will look for the best price on construction. I would move that we fund  
32 it at the original request of four hundred forty-eight thousand one hundred ninety.

33 MR. TAYLOR: I'll second it.

34 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made that we fund it at the original  
35 request of four hundred forty-eight thousand one hundred ninety dollars, and it has been  
36 seconded. Any further discussion? Hearing none, I'll call the motion. All in favor signify by  
37 saying aye? (Ayes.) All opposed? (No response.) Funding has been approved at the original  
38 request of four hundred forty-eight thousand one hundred ninety dollars.

39 Moving on to South Brunswick Small Business/Community Project, a request for four  
40 hundred twenty thousand to fix the roof repairs, et cetera. Staff recommends funding of twenty  
41 thousand dollars for an incubator feasibility study and operational plan contingent on a two  
42 thousand dollar match. Any discussion?

43 DELEGATE HOGAN: I move the Staff recommendation.

44 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made to approve the Staff

1 recommendation.

2 MR. HITE: Second.

3 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded, any discussion?  
4 All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.) Approve the Staff's  
5 recommendation.

6 The Town of Alberta Mini-Tech Center. Staff recommends funding as proposed,  
7 contingent on center serving and marketing to both town and county residents. The request was  
8 for two hundred twenty thousand three hundred forty. The money was requested to renovate and  
9 equip a vacant fire station.

10 Delegate Hogan.

11 DELEGATE HOGAN: Alberta is the home for the Southside Community  
12 College Campus at Alberta. I guess I'm wondering why they want to build another center; it  
13 looks like that is what they are doing with the community college within a few miles. The  
14 Keysville Community College is about two miles out of town. It just seems to me that would be  
15 sufficient --

16 MR. ARTHUR: That's a good question. My question is, does this include  
17 the first year start-up fees?

18 MS. FRENCH: No, it does not.

19 MR. ARTHUR: Any further discussion? You've heard the question from  
20 Delegate Hogan. Is there someone here to speak to that?

21 MS. FRENCH: I have the application, somebody else on my staff wrote  
22 this particular application. Delegate Hogan is correct in the fact that Southside Virginia  
23 Community College is actually located within the town limits of the Town of Alberta. Alberta  
24 feels like there is another need that people who don't go to the campus would be more inclined to  
25 come to the downtown center to use it, addressing elderly and younger people that might not be  
26 using the campus was their thoughts. Having more flexibility of the community college. You  
27 might have a computer type lab set up, and that's a more formal setting. The mayor of Alberta  
28 thinks that is something that would be more informal, and they could come in and have seminars  
29 and things like that and students after school use it, and elderly.

30 DELEGATE HOGAN: I'm certainly sympathetic to what Ms. French is  
31 suggesting in terms of serving the people in the Town of Alberta. Why don't we do this, write  
32 them a letter and ask them that in conjunction with the community college make a grant  
33 application to work through the community college to provide training to the population you  
34 specifically mentioned, and see if that doesn't address the problem.

35 SENATOR RUFF: If that's a motion, I'll second it.

36 MS. FRENCH: We'd be happy to do that.

37 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded. So that  
38 everybody will understand it, Delegate Hogan, would you restate it?

39 DELEGATE HOGAN: We'd ask the Chairman to write the applicants at  
40 this point a letter suggesting that they work with the community college to develop a program to  
41 address the needs of the population of Alberta. If it is appropriate, then make an application  
42 through the community college, perhaps to the Commission.

43 MR. ARTHUR: You've heard the motion restated, and it has been  
44 seconded. Any further discussion?

1 MR. OWENS: If that doesn't work, then they apply again?

2 MR. ARTHUR: They can reapply, sure.

3 DELEGATE HOGAN: I might suggest the community college might work  
4 with these people to address their needs.

5 MR. ARTHUR: All in favor say aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.)  
6 This is essentially turned down with the Staff recommendation.

7 Moving on to the Campbell County Allocation, a request for Wastewater System  
8 Enhancement, Town of Brookneal, eighty-one thousand dollars. Staff has recommended full  
9 funding.

10 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Delegate Byron is not here today, but she advised  
11 me on that, so I would move we accept the Staff recommendation.

12 MR. OWENS: Second.

13 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded, any further  
14 discussion? Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.)  
15 It is approved.

16 IDA Brookneal Industrial Property, Campbell County, a request for two hundred  
17 thousand. This is for roof repair, HVAC maintenance; the total project cost is two hundred forty-  
18 four thousand three hundred sixty-four. Staff recommends funding of a hundred twenty-five  
19 thousand for plant and improvements renovations/cleanup only. Any one here to address that?

20 MR. DAVIDSON: Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, I'm  
21 Mike Davidson, Director of Economic Development for Campbell County. The items contained  
22 in this proposal, we included those, and we did so in consultation with the Staff after attending  
23 the application free workshop. Campbell County got into this, and by the end of the year the  
24 Industrial Authority will have, by the end of this year we will have a million dollars in this  
25 building outside of everything that's identified in the project. Certainly understand the Staff  
26 recommendation not to fund personnel costs and not to fund some other things that were  
27 recognized as start-up costs. If it would please the Commission, I'd be more than happy to revise  
28 the application so that all of the two hundred thousand dollars worth of funding that has been  
29 requested will be specifically for such things as roof repair, heating/air-conditioning ventilation  
30 system. We actually think it needs to be replaced rather than repaired. At the time the  
31 application was presented we had the electrical circuit folks come in and tell us that the system is  
32 beyond repair and it will have to be replaced. We believe the full two hundred thousand is going  
33 to be necessary just to take care of the HVAC and roof systems. Since the presentation of this  
34 application there is an adjacent building, the boiler room, and we discovered that entire roof is  
35 going to have to be replaced. At this point in time we don't have a firm estimate for the cost to  
36 replace the roof on that. So just the roof replacement and the HVAC replacement and some of  
37 the equipment that was mentioned in the application that I believe Staff recommended approval  
38 of, we will be able to use the two hundred thousand. If the Commission believes that is not the  
39 appropriate thing to do I'd be happy to resubmit a follow-up application during the second round  
40 if you would prefer it that way.

41 MR. ARTHUR: I would think you would be better off to withdraw this one  
42 and submit a follow-up application for the second round in October or November.

43 SENATOR RUFF: There is a question mark on his face.

44 MR. DAVIDSON: Withdraw the entire application?

1 MR. ARTHUR: Withdraw what you are asking for for two hundred  
2 thousand or accept the one hundred twenty-five. You have to go through the process.

3 MR. DAVIDSON: If I accept a hundred and twenty, would I submit a  
4 subsequent application for the items that are not covered in the application?

5 MR. ARTHUR: Yes.

6 MR. DAVIDSON: I would prefer to do that.

7 MR. ARTHUR: You want to go with the one twenty?

8 MR. DAVIDSON: Go with the one twenty that was recommended, and we  
9 will resubmit an application for the second round.

10 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I so move.

11 MR. ARTHUR: The motion is made.

12 MR. OWENS: Second.

13 MR. ARTHUR: The motion is made and seconded, any further discussion?  
14 All in favor of approving the Staff recommendation, say aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No  
15 response.) We will go with the Staff recommendation.

16 Seneca Commerce Park Median Crossover. This is a transportation item. The Staff  
17 recommends no funding at this time. Is there anybody that wants to speak to that?

18 ---: Mr. Chairman, we accept the Staff's recommendation and will apply at  
19 a later date.

20 MR. ARTHUR: Motion to accept Staff's recommendation.

21 DELEGATE WRIGHT: So moved.

22 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded, any further  
23 discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.) Staff's  
24 recommendation is accepted on Seneca Park.

25 Danville's Allocation. There is a million-dollar request for support of the Institute,  
26 which is a long-range problem for interest and principal. The Staff recommends funding as  
27 proposed.

28 DELEGATE HOGAN: So moved.

29 MR. ARTHUR: It has been moved and seconded, any further discussion?  
30 All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.)

31 The next request is City of Danville Regional Industrial Park, which is tied into  
32 Pittsylvania County's request for the Regional Industrial Park. I'd like to hold that one until we  
33 can address the two of them together. Is there any problem with that from anyone?

34 Appomattox Riverside Park, Dinwiddie County, request for twelve thousand dollars,  
35 and the Staff recommends no funding at this time. Does anybody here want to address that?

36 MR. MOODY: Mr. Chairman, I talked to a representative from Dinwiddie  
37 County, and he is on the way.

38 MR. ARTHUR: Do you want to delay it?

39 SENATOR RUFF: I move that we delay that one until he gets here.

40 MR. ARTHUR: Then we'll come back for two of these.

41 Next is Franklin County Workforce Development Center Project, request for one  
42 million three hundred sixty-six thousand seven hundred thirty-eight. This is a complicated deal,  
43 I hope you all read through it. Space needs analysis is still under way, and construction options  
44 have not been selected. Staff recommends funding of a hundred and fifty thousand for design



1 and construction bidding process, contingent on a fifteen thousand-dollar match. Does anyone  
2 want to address that?

3 MR. HUFF: I'm Richard Huff, County Administrator for Franklin County.  
4 Would you repeat the Staff recommendation?

5 MR. ARTHUR: The Staff recommendation is space needs analysis is still  
6 underway and construction options have not been selected. Staff recommends funding of one  
7 hundred fifty thousand for design and construction bidding process, contingent on a fifteen  
8 thousand-dollar match.

9 MR. HUFF: I understand the Staff's reluctance to fund the entire project.  
10 Our concern is that the Tobacco Commission's commitment on the entire Franklin County  
11 Allocation will help us to do the fund-raising we need to do on the rest of the project. We are  
12 currently talking to several other funding sources who want to know if the Tobacco Commission  
13 has bought into the project or not. We would respectfully ask, not unlike the project that St.  
14 Paul's College earlier, it is going to happen, and it certainly enables us to go out and raise  
15 additional funds that we need to make the project a reality. The Board of Supervisors is  
16 committed to make it happen, and we are certainly under discussion, as the application indicates,  
17 on several other funding sources.

18 MR. ARTHUR: It appears to me that a hundred and fifty thousand-dollar  
19 investment, we're buying into the project, obviously. We normally don't pay in advance of these  
20 contingencies. It would seem to me that we are in the project with a hundred and fifty thousand,  
21 we're buying into it. On the surface I would tend to support the Staff's recommendation.

22 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, the reason it is important to move  
23 forward on this is to allow the federal funding, which is earmarked prior to that, so that's a matter  
24 of losing the money rather than a selling point. I'd ask if you spent a hundred and fifty thousand  
25 for design and construction in the bidding process, how quickly can that be done and that would  
26 let you put in an application in the second round. Does that prevent you from putting in an  
27 application in the second round?

28 MR. HUFF: I don't think it will, and I can't stand here today and tell you  
29 that it will. I guess our concern is to know that, assuming we jump through the right hoop, the  
30 Tobacco Commission will fund at the million three sixty-six level, we can plan our budget to  
31 raise the rest of the money. Is there a concern from the Staff or the Commission in terms of  
32 limiting the funding up-front and somehow we're going to design something that you don't want  
33 us to do? I'm not sure I understand the reasoning or what the concern is. That would help me  
34 explain what is happening if I understood.

35 DELEGATE HOGAN: We've got a lot of these workforce centers built all  
36 over. I think there is concern about whether there is some duplication, who is going to operate  
37 them, where the money is coming from. We get big projects, and we just want to make sure that  
38 there is certainly a need for it. Until we get the chance to look at the design and we know more  
39 about the project, and assuming that meets our criteria, workforce development is one of the  
40 things we have been supportive of, and we're just trying to do our job.

41 MR. HUFF: I respect that, and if that is the way we need to go we will do  
42 it. The only thing I would say that maybe makes us different, Delegate Hogan, is that we have  
43 been operating the center for almost four years now and carrying the entire operation load  
44 ourselves. This is an expansion of a successful program that has been demonstrated, and that is

1 our track record. That may make us a little bit different than some others that you are concerned,  
2 but I understand your point.

3 MR. ARTHUR: Any further discussion?

4 DELEGATE HOGAN: I move the Staff's recommendation.

5 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I'll second the motion.

6 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded that we follow  
7 the Staff's recommendation. Any further discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the Staff's  
8 recommendation signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.) We will  
9 accept the Staff's recommendation.

10 Greenville County.

11 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Chairman, if I may, there is a letter that is going  
12 around, or going out, and I sent it to the County Administrator this morning.

13 DELEGATE HOGAN: Mr. Chairman

14 MR. ARTHUR: Delegate Hogan.

15 DELEGATE HOGAN: I think we have had time to read this letter from the  
16 Director, and I would move the Staff recommendation.

17 MR. HITE: Second.

18 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, did they effectively withdraw this  
19 request so they could do something else?

20 MR. CURRIN: They were interested in a regional project.  
21 After conferring with the chairman of the committee it was felt that it would be setting the wrong  
22 precedent taking money that had been already committed by this Committee for projects and that  
23 had already been earmarked. It seems to me we have to be consistent.

24 SENATOR RUFF: -- But my question is, I was not addressing the letter so  
25 much, but did Greenville County, did they have an interest in spending the money differently  
26 than they originally applied for? Did they effectively withdraw, or are they trying to go back to  
27 last year's money and change it and keep this one going forward?

28 MR. PFOHL: Mr. Vice Chairman, the Staff received this letter from the  
29 County April 19th that opens up this and says please consider this correspondence as a request to  
30 one, have Greenville County's 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 Economic Development allocations  
31 transferred to the Workforce Development Center project. Number two, authorize the County's  
32 2005, 2006 and 2007 allocations, if any, also applied to the Workforce Development Center  
33 project. They did specifically mention the pending request for the elevator water storage tower  
34 as one of the proposals they would like transferred over to the education center project. The  
35 Assistant County Administrator is here and can probably answer that question.

36 SENATOR RUFF: But are they withdrawing this application?

37 MR. COSTA: My name is Ted Costa, and I am the Assistant County  
38 Administrator for Greenville County. We followed the directions of your Staff, which was that  
39 once we received an unfavorable decision from the Education Committee of the Commission in  
40 pursuing those grants in that path pursuant to the Staff's advice we asked about reallocating the  
41 money and how to go about reallocating the money. We received a letter that said put it in  
42 writing, and that is the letter Mr. Pfohl is referring to. We asked to withdraw the money if that  
43 was procedurally what we needed to do. That is what we would have done. We did what we  
44 were told to do and put it in writing that we wanted it reallocated. That is what we did, and it is

1 in response to a letter prior to the letter Mr. Pfohl read from.

2 SENATOR RUFF: Ted, you consider the highest priority training?

3 MR. COSTA: yes.

4 SENATOR RUFF: So you do not want us to approve this application  
5 before us?

6 MR. COSTA: The present application that was made in accordance with  
7 the grant deadline for 2004, that is off the table. What we're looking to do is try to move the  
8 previous award over to this project. We had a change in circumstances, and we need to put it on  
9 a higher education project, because we have other grant funding sources that have committed  
10 subject to this Tobacco Commission money being put in the project. We have other sources we  
11 are still waiting to hear from, but all the proposals that cited Tobacco Commission money  
12 coming in.

13 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion that we reject  
14 this proposal and get that off the table. We're only dealing with one issue.

15 MR. ARTHUR: There is no other issue right here. If I remember correctly  
16 this new application for transfer of funds did not come in or was not reviewed by Staff. This  
17 came in late and asked for a transfer for a large amount of money.

18 MR. OWENS: Can we move this or deal with this first, we accept the  
19 Staff's recommendation and no funds for this project?

20 MR. ARTHUR: Actually, Senator Ruff just made that same  
21 recommendation. If that's the motion, is there a second? The motion has been made and  
22 seconded that we accept the Staff's recommendation on this funding request for the water tower.  
23 All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.) We will accept Staff's  
24 recommendation. Now, do we want to address the transfer of funds, which is the request that has  
25 not gone through any of our reviewing process?

26 MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Chairman, I recommend we go through the normal  
27 steps we have done in the past. Staff can review this, and we can take this up in the fall.

28 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Second.

29 MR. ARTHUR: It's been moved and seconded, any discussion?

30 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, in line with the discussion I would like  
31 to say to Ted that we really want to move forward with something in the area. Do not consider  
32 this to be hostile.

33 MR. COSTA: It's a little confusing for us when we were turned down on  
34 the feasibility study two years ago and to now have our money turned down through another  
35 project because there is no study that has been done. It's a little confusing for us. We would just  
36 ask for a little clearer direction from whoever is supposed to be giving us the direction.

37 SENATOR RUFF: I'll say this is a learning curve for us also.

38 MR. COSTA: Sir, do I understand that following the cue from two years  
39 ago we went out and we've got money waiting for us. If we can just get some kind of allocation  
40 from you, we appreciate your action.

41 MR. ARTHUR: This Board is completely in favor of the education project,  
42 it is not intended to be hostile. It is intended to follow a process and be as fair as we can  
43 possibly be to everyone.

44 MR. HITE: Mr. Chairman, last year we approved a project in Chase City,

1 seven hundred fifty thousand for waste water, and that project has not moved forward. Wasn't  
2 that money transferred over to the Chase City, or how did we do that?

3 MR. PFOHL: The mechanics of that was that the town wrote us a letter  
4 saying that the waste water project was not going to proceed, that money was returned to the  
5 county's allocation, and they applied in the fall funding round, the second round of '03. They  
6 were awarded by this Committee.

7 MR. HITE: That was done without any problem?

8 MR. PFOHL: Yes, it came in through the normal application round.

9 MR. CURRIN: Ted, for clarification purposes, what other entities have said  
10 that they will allocate funds?

11 MR. COSTA: USDA, we have a letter from them.

12 MR. CURRIN: May I have a copy of that at some point?

13 MR. COSTA: Sure.

14 MR. ARTHUR: Is everyone satisfied where we are on this issue? Mr.  
15 Taylor made a motion that we go through the normal steps we have done in the past, there was a  
16 second. All in favor say aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.) We accept the Staff's  
17 recommendation.

18 Moving on to Halifax. The VIPER 7 Program is requested to be removed from the  
19 agenda and sent to Special Projects.

20 DELEGATE HOGAN: So move the Staff recommendation.

21 MR. OWENS: Second.

22 MR. ARTHUR: Any discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye?  
23 (Ayes.) Opposed, like sign? (No response.) This will be moved to Special Projects.

24 Building One in Riverstone Technology Park, one million dollars. The Staff has  
25 recommended funding as proposed

26 DELEGATE HOGAN: Move the Staff recommendation.

27 MR. OWENS: Second.

28 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded, any discussion?  
29 Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.)

30 Purchase and Revitalization of 104-acre Site, Halifax IDA, for one hundred seventy-  
31 five thousand dollars. Staff recommends funding as proposed.

32 DELEGATE HOGAN: So moved.

33 SENATOR RUFF: Second.

34 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded, any discussion?  
35 All in favor say aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.)

36 Expansion of Southern Virginia Higher Education Center, Halifax Educational  
37 Foundation, one million five hundred thousand.

38 DELEGATE HOGAN: I'd move the Staff recommendation.

39 MR. ARTHUR: The Staff recommended funding of seven hundred fifty  
40 thousand, contingent on submission of space needs assessment and utilization plan for the  
41 education facility before release of funds. We have had a motion.

42 MR. OWENS: I'll second it.

43 MR. ARTHUR: It has been moved and seconded. Any further discussion?  
44 All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.) Staff's

1 recommendation.

2 Moving on to the Mecklenburg County Allocation, Micro-Business Revolving Loan  
3 Fund. Staff recommended no funding at this time. Do I hear a motion?

4 MS. FRENCH: Mr. Chairman, Joyce French, Southside Planning Region.  
5 We don't have a problem with the Staff recommendation on that. It was intended for small  
6 projects that fall into what we have. Of course, we also have a revolving loan in our region that  
7 is for larger projects that are harder to get. We understand it might not be feasible to start setting  
8 up small revolving loans to each county, so we concur with the Staff's recommendation that we  
9 may pursue it in the future on a regional basis. It makes good sense.

10 MR. HITE: I move we accept the Staff's recommendation.

11 MR. ARTHUR: I have a motion that we accept the Staff's recommendation  
12 and a second. Any further discussion?

13 SENATOR RUFF: I hope you will get in touch with the Small Business  
14 Financing Authority, they could tap into this money.

15 MS. FRENCH: We do that, but the projects that Mr. Jones had in mind  
16 when we put this together, we're very familiar through the Development Corporation that the  
17 qualifications would not probably be a project that would be funded with the existing programs  
18 that are out there.

19 MR. ARTHUR: We've got a motion and a second, any further discussion?  
20 All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.) Staff  
21 recommendation.

22 Lake Country Cove Project, the Staff recommendation recommends funding in the  
23 amount of three hundred ninety thousand for engineering and permit only. Any discussion?

24 MS. FRENCH: This has been another project that has been in the works for  
25 several years. If you remember, some time ago we submitted it to Special Projects, and we were  
26 given direction as to what we should do. One was to make sure that we had commitments from  
27 other funding sources. In other words, you wanted county and town money in it and other  
28 sources, and we were able to get ninety thousand from HUD on an Economic Development  
29 Initiative special grant. The Town of Clarksville and Mecklenburg County had put in money,  
30 and also private donations have come in for this project. The first time I ever heard about the  
31 Cove Project was when Jack Hite called me and walked me over to the edge of the lake down  
32 where the rocks and the trash dumped, and he said we need to do something here in Clarksville.  
33 It is the only town that sits on the lake and has no access to the water. There are people on the  
34 water, and there are thousands of people that can't dock. You ride by the town and wave at the  
35 people on shore, but there is no ingress on that lake. What we need to do is proceed with  
36 developing, it is not a boat launch, some people think of it as a boat launch, but this is tourism  
37 development where there will be a part that will be accessible to the lake so people can come up  
38 and have some walking paths through the town area, which is already in the process of  
39 revitalizing because people get off the boats and come down and spend money. They are trying  
40 to develop various types of businesses, and also restaurants and cafes have developed along  
41 Clarksville's Main Street. They are doing the groundwork to accommodate these vacationers and  
42 tourists that are on the water. Until we develop this Cove and Harbor Project that is not going to  
43 happen. We would like to proceed as quickly as possible to get the design because each day we  
44 go on it gets more expensive. The Corps of Engineers has just informed the Town Manager that

1 they are now going to start charging for the reviews that they do, that you are required to do.  
2 Those are the environmental studies, and they review them, and now they are going to require  
3 you do it and then charge you for their time to do the review. The Corps of Engineers is very  
4 difficult to work with. Right now they seem to be supporting this more so than they ever have  
5 been, and they are interested in it. So we are kind of working towards getting it under way and  
6 get it designed so they can okay it before they change their mind and decide to charge us for  
7 something else. I guess it has been about three years since I first received a call that we worked  
8 on this.

9 MR. HITE: She is right, we have endorsed the project, and I do support the  
10 project, and it is a worthy project for us in the Town of Clarksville. The town is really in need of  
11 this, and I hope that the Committee will support this project fully. Joyce, right now what is the  
12 total cost of the project?

13 MS. FRENCH: Right now the projected total cost, according to what I had  
14 last, is four point five million.

15 MR. HITE: The second question is, if you get this funding for this what are  
16 you going to need?

17 MS. FRENCH: The four point five million dollars has been addressed from  
18 many different sources. EDA, additional HUD money, I have already talked to people in the  
19 development aspect, and we will probably look back at the Tobacco Commission. We are going  
20 through a whole list, and we are going to ask each one to put in some, because there is no one  
21 funding agency. This will be similar to the Lake Country Roanoke River Regional Water to get  
22 money from multiple sources. We've just talk to various people about trying to get funding.

23 MR. HITE: You haven't gotten a firm commitment?

24 MS. FRENCH: No, you can't get a firm commitment until you turn in the  
25 design. I have to send in an application and send in design and cost estimates for them to be able  
26 to commit to funding, anyone.

27 MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Chairman, Joyce, could you give us a thumbnail sketch  
28 of your impact, did you do an impact study?

29 MS. FRENCH: An impact study was done. When you talk about this area  
30 or this population you're talking about an area that has about seven point five percent  
31 unemployment. There are one hundred sixteen thousand seven hundred sixty additional tourists  
32 projected to visit Buggs Island Lake. The economic impact study was another thing that Special  
33 Projects requested, and they told us to go back and have an economic impact study done before  
34 we came back with the project. We hired someone to do the economic impact study. It comes  
35 under Economic Development outcome and it says that spending in Mecklenburg County for  
36 travelers is over eighty million dollars, the municipal harbor and overlook park proposed that  
37 this project would serve as a gateway to attract travelers to come into the town and increase  
38 tourism generated by the new harbor park will boost the local economy and create job  
39 opportunities and the tax revenue. Approximately one hundred sixteen thousand seven hundred  
40 sixty additional tourists are projected as a result of them having a place that they can get off.  
41 Right now on that lake, Buggs Island Lake, with eight hundred fifty miles of shoreline, you don't  
42 have any place to go. You can go to a boat launch, but you have to have a car to drive into town,  
43 or maybe up at Longwood. You don't get off downtown and get your lunch and go back.

44 MR. ARTHUR: Is there a dock there at the motel?

1 MS. FRENCH: The dock was flooded out, and what is there needs to be  
2 repaired. It is a very small dock, and it is undersized. It won't handle all the boats that come in.

3 MR. ARTHUR: Is the area you are talking about on the other side of the  
4 bridge?

5 MS. FRENCH: Right beside the bridge.

6 MR. HITE: This is what she is talking about. I'd like to move that we fund  
7 the full amount to the town.

8 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Second.

9 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded. I'd like to state  
10 that the reason two or three years ago I voted against it, I think you have done a remarkable job  
11 in changing it from what it originally appeared to be. Any further discussion?

12 MR. BRYANT: Mr. Chairman, how did you determine to cut one hundred  
13 sixty thousand from the project as recommended?

14 MR. PFOHL: The amount we recommended?

15 MR. BRYANT: You're cutting one hundred sixty thousand from this  
16 project?

17 MR. PFOHL: The budget narrative that was attached to the application,  
18 they list what they call the Phase I tasks, which is primarily environmental review and design  
19 and permitting. So we were focusing on those tasks and to build in some use of those matching  
20 funds, and that's how we arrived at the figure that would include some matching sources. The  
21 Commission's money was not the only money going into this phase of the study.

22 MS. FRENCH: We were going to do Phase I and II together, and it would  
23 be combining the Tobacco money and local money. The local money would be ninety thousand,  
24 federal sixty, sixty thousand, and local thirty thousand. So one hundred eighty thousand in funds  
25 other than Tobacco Commission funds will go into this.

26 MR. ERSKINE: What about the Phase I and Phase II, how is that broken  
27 down?

28 MR. PFOHL: The Phase I total cost, five hundred fifteen thousand. So  
29 what we were proposing is that the Commission cover three ninety out of five fifteen, with the  
30 balance coming from those other sources. We found those were the necessary precursors to Phase  
31 II tasks, which is the actual construction design. Phase I is a list of a half dozen bullets, research  
32 and reviews of existing sub-surface information, determining regulatory requirements for dredge  
33 and fill, sampling analysis, initial design for permitting, prepare a permit application and final  
34 permit, and that totaled five hundred fifteen thousand. Phase II is another two hundred fifteen  
35 thousand, and that gets us to the total of seven hundred thirty thousand.

36 MS. FRENCH: Phase II was the construction design that we need for the  
37 grant application.

38 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I think Ms. French has pointed out the reasons and  
39 some of the problems that require full funding. I call for the question.

40 MR. ARTHUR: The question has been called for. All in favor of funding  
41 the full amount requested signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.) All right.  
42 Tim, will you verify we don't go over their allocation?

43 MR. PFOHL: Yes.

44 MR. ARTHUR: Lakeside Commerce Park Technology Cluster,

1 Mecklenburg County IDA, request for a million two twelve nine eleven. The Staff's  
2 recommendation is funding in the amount of one million one ninety-seven nine eleven as  
3 proposed, with the omission of fifteen thousand for grant administration charges.

4 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, I would ask the question that on the  
5 other grant administration I don't see any other deduction. Why is that?

6 MR. PFOHL: Under the guide for sustainability the Southside Planning  
7 District Commission has been very consistent in asking that they get the administration costs  
8 built into the grant request. It is the position of the Staff that Commission funds might be better  
9 served going to actual project costs and then ask the localities that the contractor for the Planning  
10 District Commission cover the administrative costs. That would be the Staff's position.

11 MS. FRENCH: I would like to address this. We have been cut from ninety-  
12 four thousand in state funding to fifty-nine thousand for the Planning District Commission. Tim  
13 used to be at VHCD, and they gripe if we charge one dime of any overhead to one of their grants  
14 that we couldn't prove. Now he is recommending to us that we do the work on somebody else's  
15 grant and charge it to another party, which is basically an illegal activity. I have a difficult time  
16 figuring out how if you don't want to pay the people working on your project and you expect  
17 someone else to pay it. I've have had a lot of block grants and T-21 grants, and you asked me to  
18 write them, and will they allow me to pay staff time to take care of these activities? I'll be happy  
19 to do that, but I can tell you what the answer would be. It would be the same. I'll let you find  
20 out from VHCD what Todd and Bill would say. We cannot work for free.

21 MR. PFOHL: Our position is that the locality that you are contracting with,  
22 the locality that is the applicant to the Commission, could cover the administrative costs of the  
23 Planning District Commission.

24 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Chairman, Counsel is here, and we don't want to create  
25 any illegal activities. Tim, the key term is he used to be.

26 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, if I could clarify, we're talking about the  
27 same dollar amount. Does it affect anything other than semantics here whether that fifteen  
28 thousand comes from a locality or, you're still talking about the same total dollar amount.

29 MR. PFOHL: In the scheme of a one point two million- dollar project, it's  
30 probably not a huge matter, a matter of principle.

31 DELEGATE HOGAN: I move the Staff recommendation.

32 MR. ARTHUR: It has been moved and seconded, is there any discussion?

33 MR. HITE: The private match, is that the same match made last year, or is  
34 it an additional match for this project?

35 MS. FRENCH: Which project are you speaking about last year?

36 MR. HITE: The one that was for our county, the one eighty-five private  
37 match.

38 MS. FRENCH: We never put in an Economic Development application for  
39 our county.

40 MR. HITE: You haven't replaced any other projects?

41 MS. FRENCH: No, the only thing he got was that TROF Deal Closing. We  
42 didn't put any money to them at all. I think you are speaking about his equipment that he put in  
43 this building.

44 MR. HITE: Same match put into TROF?



1 MS. FRENCH: Which is always the case any time we do, the TROF is  
2 separate. We have many companies that we have put in for development of industrial parks or  
3 sites and then they got TROF money, but the private investment money is the same. This money  
4 should be consistent with both projects. This is what he is putting in his project.

5 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, I have a substitute motion that we  
6 approve one point two one two nine eleven.

7 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Second.

8 SENATOR RUFF: The motion is to fund as requested.

9 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded that we accept  
10 the Staff's recommendation.

11 SENATOR RUFF: My motion was to take precedence as a substitute  
12 motion.

13 MR. ARTHUR: I thought that is what you just said. All right, excuse me.

14 SENATOR RUFF: The substitute motion, that is the original motion. The  
15 substitute motion is that we fund it as requested.

16 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded that we fund it as  
17 originally requested. Any more discussion?

18 MR. ERSKINE: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hite had a question on one eighty-five,  
19 private matches, both matches for TROF awards which closed the deal and what is counted as a  
20 match, and I think that is still an open question.

21 MS. FRENCH: As an example, you all have put money in other industrial  
22 parks. I believe you have got money in the technology building and you have got money in the  
23 industrial park itself and the investment we put in that park, and you're anticipating an  
24 investment in that building.

25 MR. ERSKINE: Mr. Chairman, in the past has the principle been not to  
26 fund administrative costs?

27 MR. PFOHL: It has not been raised as an issue, to my knowledge.

28 MS. FRENCH: We include it in all applications and been previously  
29 approved. I shouldn't say all applications, if it is an engineering study we do not, because we  
30 won't do the day-to-day administration like we do with advertisements and working with the  
31 contractors and that sort of thing. But we have consistently put small amounts, as you can see,  
32 because if it was other agencies it would be more like thirty or forty thousand. So we try to have  
33 a very small amount, and we have consistently done that. That is how we have gotten money to  
34 provide the staff. Britt can attest to the fact that she has talked to us quite often, and we can be  
35 her contact when she needs to get information.

36 MR. ERSKINE: Mr. Chairman, it seems to be an important point for this  
37 Committee. We have clear standards and clear principles, and it has been clear up to this point  
38 that recommendations have been made to Mr. Currin and his Staff to work on outlining the  
39 guidelines and a clearer standard by the Commission as to whether or not we have been funding  
40 administrative charges.

41 MS. FRENCH: It is really not an administrative charge in the sense that, it  
42 would be administrative if it was paid to the locality. Mecklenburg and Brunswick can put the  
43 money in for administrative. They are contracting with us just like they would with consulting  
44 engineers who often do that kind of work. You would allow that it be put in a consulting

1 engineers' packet. I can't see the difference in contracting with another group, a planning group  
2 and an administrative group, such as ourselves. It is contractual services, not administrative  
3 funds.

4 DELEGATE WRIGHT: We've had discussions on this, so I would call for  
5 the question.

6 DELEGATE HOGAN: Second.

7 MR. ARTHUR: The question has been called for on the substitute motion,  
8 which is to approve the original amount requested, which includes the fifteen thousand dollar so-  
9 called administrative charge. All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) All opposed? (No.)  
10 Call the roll, please.

11 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Bryant?

12 MR. BRYANT: Aye.

13 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Byron?

14 DELEGATE BYRON: (No response.)

15 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Hite?

16 MR. HITE: No.

17 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Hogan?

18 DELEGATE HOGAN: No.

19 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Moody?

20 MR. MOODY: Aye.

21 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Owens?

22 MR. OWENS: No.

23 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Vice Chairman?

24 SENATOR RUFF: Aye.

25 MR. CURRIN: Deputy Secretary Erskine?

26 MR. ERSKINE: No.

27 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Taylor?

28 MR. TAYLOR: Aye.

29 MR. CURRIN: Ms. Terry?

30 MS. TERRY: (No response.)

31 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Walker?

32 MR. WALKER: (No response.)

33 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Wright?

34 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Aye.

35 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Chairman?

36 MR. ARTHUR: No.

37 We have a tie vote. The motion fails.

38 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I move we accept the Staff's recommendation.

39 MR. HITE: I'll second it, the original motion.

40 MR. ARTHUR: We are back to the original motion now that we fund the  
41 Staff's recommendation. The motion has been made and seconded, any further discussion? All  
42 in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.) We approve the Staff's  
43 recommendation.

44 MR. BRYANT: Mr. Chairman, I didn't disagree with the proclamation we

1 voted on, but I don't like changes in the middle of the stream. It should be clear when the next  
2 round comes that this is the policy of the Commission. That is what I was opposed to, and that is  
3 the reason I voted the way I did.

4 MR. ARTHUR: Mr. Bryant, I have never voted for a program which pays  
5 administrative costs, that I knew about, anyway.

6 MS. FRENCH: It's in the application, it has been there from day one.

7 MR. ARTHUR: Moving on to the Piedmont Park Development Project,  
8 Nottoway County. A request for one hundred eighty-three thousand seven hundred fifty-three.  
9 The Staff recommendation is no funding at this time. Project lacks site development estimates  
10 and will result in marginal retail/service employment, inconsistent with targeted employment  
11 opportunities suggested in Long-Range Plan.

12 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Is anyone here from Nottoway to answer  
13 questions?

14 MR. ARTHUR: Do I hear a motion to accept the Staff's recommendation?

15 MR. TAYLOR: So moved.

16 MR. ARTHUR: There is a motion and there is a second that we accept the  
17 Staff's recommendation. All those in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed, like sign?  
18 (No - No.)

19 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I would ask the Staff to work with Nottoway and  
20 see if they might be having some difficulty with these projects, to help steer them in the right  
21 direction so they can deal with their allocation in the future.

22 DELEGATE HOGAN: I might ask or say that we have had some problems  
23 with Nottoway, this is not the first time that has happened. We might ask Mr. Currin and his  
24 Staff to meet with the Nottoway Board and help them.

25 MR. CURRIN: I'll be delighted to do that. Mr. Stephenson and others have  
26 been with the County Administrator and other staff people just this week.

27 MR. STEPHENSON: We are aware of the need, and we are trying to help.

28 DELEGATE HOGAN: I'd ask you then to contact myself and Delegate  
29 Wright and we might like to be there.

30 MR. STEPHENSON: Certainly.

31 MR. ARTHUR: Moving right along, Southside Geospatial Technology  
32 Center, National Institute for Technology Policy and Research, requested one hundred eighty-  
33 three thousand dollars, and the Staff recommended no funding at this time.

34 MR. WILSON: I'm Bill Wilson, and I work with the National Institute for  
35 Technology Policy and Research at Longwood University. We have been working in these fields  
36 of technology. I am very curious to know if at this point you have suggested, or if you can tell  
37 me why this has been turned down. I'd like to know the reason.

38 MR. ARTHUR: The Staff has said no operational plan provided or details  
39 on proposed use of TIC funds, lack of local support. Mr. Pfohl, is that correct?

40 MR. PFOHL: Yes, sir. The Staff was looking for things like an operating  
41 budget, position descriptions, a work plan, cost break-outs, time table for implementation. I  
42 think we need some more of those things before we could support this type of request.

43 MR. WILSON: I take the application did not meet your approval. I'm not  
44 the person that wrote the grant, so I'm trying to address it. I think the concept you are talking

1 about is the one that needs to be really assessed here, even though the recommendation has not  
2 been satisfied. This is a booming technology business, and it is worldwide as well as nationwide  
3 growth. The latest recommendation, twenty-one million, more recently about thirty million  
4 industry, Southside is not addressing that issue at all. The National Institute partners with, or  
5 wants to partner with the National Guard and also with the CMI agency at Virginia Tech. They  
6 see this as a booming technology. Southside is going to have a need for those positions, as well  
7 as a need to develop positions and job responsibilities in these areas. I'm not sure that this will  
8 address a change in mind in the Commonwealth, but I respectfully suggest that you consider this  
9 particular proposal and the benefits that will ensue from it.

10 MR. ARTHUR: Thank you, very much.

11 MR. ERSKINE: Have you discussed this with the Staff? It seems like a  
12 very good idea, but in terms of quality and soundness of the proposal perhaps it is best to step  
13 forward and assist them in improving their proposal.

14 MR. PFOHL: We will be more than happy to do that. We are delighted to  
15 have dialogue with them.

16 MR. ARTHUR: Do I hear a motion to accept the Staff's recommendation?

17 MR. TAYLOR: So moved.

18 MR. OWENS: Second.

19 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded, any further  
20 discussion? Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No  
21 response.) Accept the Staff's recommendation.

22 ALMS HOUSE Services Expansion/Renovation Project, Staff recommends no  
23 funding. Any comments? Do I hear a motion we accept the Staff's recommendation?

24 DELEGATE HOGAN: So moved.

25 MR. ARTHUR: Motion made and seconded, any discussion? All in favor  
26 signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.) Accept the Staff's  
27 recommendation.

28 Patrick County Heritage Center, JEB Stuart Birthplace Preservation Trust, requesting  
29 two hundred twelve thousand fifty. Staff recommends no funding. Anyone from Patrick  
30 County?

31 UNIDENTIFIED: I'm not associated with that project. Actually, it is my  
32 understanding it goes to the Education Committee, so I'm not in the loop on that one.

33 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, I move we accept the Staff  
34 recommendation.

35 MR. ARTHUR: A motion is made and seconded that we accept the Staff  
36 report. All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.)

37 The Virginia Narrow Fabric Building Purchase, Patrick County Board of Supervisors,  
38 two hundred forty thousand-dollar request, revised from their original request of two hundred  
39 twenty thousand. Staff recommends funding as proposed.

40 DELEGATE HOGAN: I'll move the Staff recommendation.

41 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Second.

42 MR. ARTHUR: The motion is made, and it has been seconded, any further  
43 discussion? Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No  
44 response.)

1 Moving along to Pittsylvania County, The Institute for Advanced Learning and  
2 Research request for one million dollars. Staff recommends funding as proposed.

3 MR. TAYLOR: Move approval.

4 MR. ARTHUR: It's been moved and seconded, any further discussion?  
5 Hearing none, it's approved.

6 Gretna Industrial Park - Phase III, Pittsylvania County, one million three fifty-three  
7 nine eighty-six. Project is supported by previous Commission awards in FY01 for land  
8 purchase, in '02 for engineering, in '03 for water line. Engineering and design work has not been  
9 completed, and cost estimates are still preliminary at this time. Staff recommends no funding at  
10 this time.

11 MR. SLEEPER: I'd like to put a little light on the subject, Mr. Chairman.  
12 We began this project and also a problem that occurred in the Town of Gretna, we had drought,  
13 and we had to do an emergency pond in order to pump water to the town. That caused some  
14 general thinking of a critical aspect of that part of the park during that time. We requested our  
15 original application to be changed. In November 2002, we requested the Commission to change  
16 from the reservoir proposing to the pipeline so we could do the engineering. We didn't do  
17 anything for seven months. Three times we came to the Commission, but we couldn't get on the  
18 agenda because they were proposing to buy bonds in February, and we just couldn't get on the  
19 next meeting because of priorities of the Commission. In May of the following year they  
20 approved the engineering, and that put the project seven months behind. That is why we just got  
21 to the point where we would have been over a year ago.

22 DELEGATE HOGAN: That's a good reason to wait until September, that is  
23 why I move the Staff recommendation.

24 MR. TAYLOR: Second.

25 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded to accept the  
26 Staff's recommendation and let it go to September. Any further discussion? Dan, do you still  
27 have the money in the bank on this project?

28 MR. SLEEPER: Yes, five hundred fifteen thousand set aside. We have one  
29 point five million on our allocation, and that is the second part. The first part was engineering  
30 and just now completing the engineering because it took three-quarters of a year to get it started.  
31 The environmental work involved is significant, and that is because of Smith Mountain Lake.  
32 The intent here was to continue to move the park and get the industrial access roads in and get  
33 the sites graded while we were getting the final work done for the environmental concerns. The  
34 pipeline can go in fairly quickly once we get the permits under way and get it in. Then we will  
35 have the water to the town and the park, and water will be there. That was the intent of this  
36 whole application.

37 MR. ARTHUR: The question has been called. All in favor of accepting the  
38 Staff's recommendation signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No.) Staff's  
39 recommendation has been accepted.

40 Pittsylvania County/City of Danville Regional Industrial Park - Phase II, the request is  
41 seven hundred one thousand seventy-nine dollars. The Staff has recommended no funding. This  
42 goes back to Danville's request on the same one that we put off until now. They sort of go hand-  
43 in-hand together.

44 DELEGATE HOGAN: Can we do this in a block, Mr. Chairman?

1 MR. ARTHUR: We can do it in a block, one is no good without the other.  
2 This is a long-range project that has been planned for a long time. From the beginning it was a  
3 long-range plan submitted on the attempt to purchase the large block of land to be available for a  
4 large industrial project, infrastructure, water, sewer has already been funded by this Committee  
5 and by the Full Commission. This is an on-going project and comes in phases. The Staff has  
6 said there wasn't enough information in the request from Danville, which is whose blocks of land  
7 are going to be options. Mr. Sleeper, would you like to address these concerns?

8 MR. SLEEPER: The concerns that the City of Danville or there wasn't  
9 enough detailed information because their request said they were simply going to use the money  
10 to buy land and/or necessary infrastructure. At the time we weren't sure what parts of the land  
11 we could get. We still aren't, because we stopped with the issues going on right now with Phase  
12 II on getting the options. Four tracts of land remain in Phase III of this project. In Phase III  
13 there's over one point seven million dollars worth of land purchased, and one of the tracts is a  
14 very large tract, and that is closer to a million dollars. The final negotiation of the actual value of  
15 the property we will have to redo, because there has not been an option with that individual. If  
16 we don't buy the large tract, the next three tracts do have agreements we can get the options  
17 signed. The problem is what happened with us from 2001 until now. We start with the options  
18 with these people, and they plan on moving, and they get out of the way, they don't want to  
19 extend those options to buy that land. That's one of the problems we ran into with this particular  
20 request. We are going after three of those tracts right now and get those options, and that will be  
21 about three hundred ninety-six thousand for the City, and the County's share will be about three  
22 ninety-six. The final leg of the sanitary sewer, the twenty-four inch sewer line runs to the pump  
23 station. The County and the City are partners, that will be a regional pump station, and that  
24 sewer line is three hundred seven. Together that will take the City's full allocation. So we will  
25 get two options for the locations. Over five hundred eighty-three thousand is required from the  
26 City.

27 MR. YEATTS: My name is Todd Yeatts from the City of Danville. The  
28 regional industrial park with Pittsylvania County, this is the second year we have come forward  
29 for funding with this multi-year or multi-phased project. In the 2004 Comprehensive Economic  
30 Development Strategy study regional park they designated this the number one priority for the  
31 Planning District. This will create eight hundred jobs. The City's portion of five hundred fifty-  
32 one thousand eight hundred ninety-nine dollars, the City will put in the difference between  
33 whatever amount of purchase we need. This is a multi-phase project, and that is one of the  
34 reasons for the funding, and that is why we're asking for it in the second year. Mr. Sleeper  
35 mentioned that if we are able to purchase the four tracts of land, and our allocation will not quite  
36 cover that, and we will make up the difference in that. If tract one is unavailable we will  
37 purchase the other three tracts and move forward with the wastewater sewer line.

38 DELEGATE HOGAN: Mr. Chairman, I think the question is we have had  
39 this in the Danville block. I move we approve this block as requested and an explanation as I  
40 understand the concern about the way this has moved forward. We have put substantial money  
41 into this regional park over the last several years, and to get in the middle now and stop and  
42 leave a hole and create these kind of problems I think would be irresponsible. One of the  
43 problems we have in Southside right now is that we do not have a large enough park to attract  
44 tier one industry in some cases, or large industries. We need to have a park to do that. This is

1 one of two or three places that I am aware of; therefore, I move that we approve these grants. If  
2 there are any technical problems I am sure our capable Staff and the Attorney General's Office  
3 can work that out.

4 MR. BRYANT: I'll second it.

5 MS. CUSHMAC: Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to caution you, I'd like to  
6 remind you that there are guidelines in place for specific reasons. I understand the proposal is  
7 contrary to the guidelines that have been adopted by this Committee. I would just caution you  
8 that you open yourself up to unwanted future action if you don't follow the guidelines that are in  
9 place.

10 DELEGATE HOGAN: Mr. Chairman, we have guidelines to provide  
11 general guidance, and we have authority to make these grants based on what we think is best for  
12 Southside, and I move that motion.

13 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded, any further  
14 discussion? Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No.) Roll  
15 call.

16 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Bryant?

17 MR. BRYANT: Aye.

18 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Byron?

19 DELEGATE BYRON: (No response.)

20 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Hite?

21 MR. HITE: No.

22 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Hogan?

23 DELEGATE HOGAN: Aye.

24 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Moody?

25 MR. MOODY: No.

26 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Owens?

27 MR. OWENS: No.

28 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Vice Chairman?

29 SENATOR RUFF: Aye.

30 MR. CURRIN: Deputy Secretary Erskine?

31 MR. ERSKINE: No.

32 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Taylor?

33 MR. TAYLOR: No.

34 MR. CURRIN: Ms. Terry?

35 MS. TERRY: (No response.)

36 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Walker?

37 MR. WALKER: (No response.)

38 MR. CURRIN: Delegate Wright?

39 DELEGATE WRIGHT: No.

40 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Chairman?

41 MR. ARTHUR: Aye.

42 MR. CURRIN: Two ayes and six nays.

43 MR. ARTHUR: The motion is defeated.

44 Blairs Commercial/Industrial Park - Preliminary Engineering and Site Analysis Study.

1 No, I overlooked one. Let's go back to the Regional Sanitary Sewer Pump Station and Force  
2 Main, Pittsylvania County, request for three hundred fourteen thousand. Staff recommends  
3 funding as proposed. Any discussion? The motion has been made and seconded, all in favor  
4 signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.) Approved.

5 VIR Regional Sanitary Sewer System and Waterline, one hundred fifty-eight thousand  
6 five hundred. Staff recommends funding as proposed.

7 DELEGATE HOGAN: So moved.

8 MR. ARTHUR: A motion has been made and seconded. All in favor  
9 signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.) That is approved.

10 Blairs Commercial/Industrial Park - Preliminary Engineering and Site Analysis Study,  
11 request for fifty thousand dollars. Staff recommends no funding.

12 MR. SLEEPER: One of our problems, Mr. Chairman, and we have  
13 received, without question we have received allocations of tobacco funds. We have found that  
14 once we don't do the preliminary engineering, we have increased problems as we move through  
15 requirements of the park. The only one we have completed so far is the regional park. We know  
16 what we are doing when we get that allocation and get acceptance and get access roads in and  
17 get things done. Moving forward in planning some of this is taking two or three years, and we  
18 really need to do preliminary engineering on any of these tracts that we think are going to be our  
19 proposed parks. That was the intent in trying to get this one ready. We have 58 West, we have  
20 Gretna and the regional park, and when we get these projects underway, the other two have  
21 problems because of lack of preliminary engineering before we even purchase it. That is what  
22 we were looking for, and I want you to try to understand where we are headed.

23 MR. ARTHUR: The Staff said apparently you have five industrial parks  
24 under way or in various stages of development. That is the reason why they recommend no  
25 funding.

26 MR. SLEEPER: I understand it, that is the reason why we were trying to  
27 get the funding, so we could move faster and we wouldn't be in the position with at least three of  
28 them that we are now.

29 MR. ERSKINE: Call the question.

30 MR. ARTHUR: The question has been called for. Do I hear a motion?

31 MR. ERSKINE: I move that we accept the Staff's recommendation.

32 MR. OWENS: Second.

33 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made we accept the Staff's  
34 recommendation, and it has been seconded. Any further discussion? All in favor signify by  
35 saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.) Accept the Staff's recommendation.

36 Prince Edward County Allocation. Alternate Route 628 Access Road, two hundred  
37 thirty-one thousand eighty-three. Staff recommends no funding. Any discussion?

38 DELEGATE HOGAN: I move we accept the Staff's recommendation.

39 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded that we accept  
40 the Staff's recommendation. Any further discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.)  
41 Opposed like sign? (No.) Accept the Staff's recommendation.

42 Let's go back to Dinwiddie. Is anyone here from Dinwiddie?

43 SENATOR RUFF: Mr. Chairman, I move we strike that last vote.

44 MR. ARTHUR: On what grounds?



1 SENATOR RUFF: To reconsider it, on Prince Edward.

2 MR. ARTHUR: That's fine. The motion has been made and seconded to  
3 strike the vote. All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.)

4 Let's go back to Prince Edward on the Access Road. Do you want to hold Prince  
5 Edward? All right, let's go back to Dinwiddie.

6 MR. SCHEID: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry for being late, and I  
7 appreciate you allowing me to speak. I looked at the Staff's recommendation, and I see they  
8 recommended no additional funding at this time. Unfortunately, when I received the Staff's  
9 recommendation there were very few days for me to respond to it. I did attempt to get ahold of  
10 their office to let them know. We are right now in the process of closing on one of those  
11 properties. Our attorneys are working with various individuals to close, and it's close to a  
12 million dollars right now. That should be completed in the next couple of weeks. There is  
13 another piece of property that we are in the process of moving on and hope to be able to close on  
14 that. That is considerably more than what we are talking about that we had in our fund balance.  
15 That's our engineering studies that we need to do, as well as putting in the infrastructure, and that  
16 is why we need this additional amount of funding. So what I'm saying is, is there some way that  
17 the Staff could put language that so much of these funds could be expended and this could be  
18 added to the original balance.

19 MR. ARTHUR: Which one of these are you addressing?

20 MR. SCHEID: This is the Dinwiddie Industrial Park Phase III.

21 MR. ARTHUR: There were two others ahead of you.

22 MR. SCHEID: I'm sorry, I should have made myself clear. I thought those  
23 were the projects. They said one of those is not a valid project, and I really don't know how to  
24 address that. I went to the one immediately that we think is the most important.

25 MR. ARTHUR: You are basically saying that Phase III is the one that you  
26 want to address and is the most important one to you.

27 MR. SCHEID: Yes, sir, that is, and that is the one I was addressing. I'm  
28 sorry I didn't make myself clear.

29 MR. ARTHUR: Please stand by. Under the Appomattox Riverside Park,  
30 Dinwiddie County, twelve thousand dollar request, and Staff recommended no funding. This is  
31 the first one on page four.

32 SENATOR RUFF: I move we accept the Staff's recommendation.

33 MR. HITE: This request is not too far removed from both projects.

34 MR. ERSKINE: Mr. Chairman, I think Mr. Hite's comments about the  
35 Tourism Corporation are helpful, and other tourism projects interfaced with people from Virginia  
36 Tourism in terms of this project is helpful. Perhaps this project, they could be of assistance in  
37 planning for this.

38 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded that we accept  
39 the Staff's recommendation. All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign?  
40 (No response.) I know it is getting late, but would anyone mind taking a ten-minute break?

41 DELEGATE HOGAN: Mr. Chairman, real quick, I'd move the Staff's  
42 recommendation on the Industrial Park and move that we fund it as requested.

43 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I'll second.

44 MR. ARTHUR: Let's take them one at a time. The Economic

1 Development/Planning Study, Dinwiddie County, forty-three thousand. It has been moved that  
2 we accept the Staff's recommendation and seconded. Any discussion?

3 MR. ERSKINE: Mr. Chairman, I would recommend to Dinwiddie County  
4 that perhaps they interface with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership in terms of  
5 some assistance in economic development planning.

6 MR. ARTHUR: The recommendation is well accepted. Dinwiddie County  
7 Industrial Park Phase III, request for six hundred twenty-four thousand six hundred ninety-one.  
8 A motion has been made to fund the entire amount as requested.

9 MR. OWENS: Second.

10 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded, any more  
11 discussion? Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No  
12 response.)

13 Let's take a ten-minute break.

14  
15 NOTE: A break is had.

16  
17 MR. ARTHUR: Let's reconvene. Since we took Pittsylvania County and Danville  
18 together as a block, we'd like to go back and readdress Danville, and they don't have the same  
19 problems to consider as Pittsylvania County. Danville's request was for five hundred fifty-one  
20 thousand eight hundred ninety-nine for Phase II of the joint industrial park. The problem was  
21 that the Staff didn't have enough information, the information was submitted late. We'd like to  
22 readdress that problem.

23 MR. YEATTS: Todd Yeatts, City of Danville. I have an administrative  
24 correction to make to the application. The application requested five hundred fifty one thousand  
25 eight hundred ninety-nine. It actually should be five hundred fifty one thousand eight hundred  
26 eighty-nine dollars. We are asking for ten dollars more than we deserve. With that request we  
27 request for the Tobacco Commission funds to use for the joint industrial park. This is a multi-  
28 phase regional industrial park. I think some of the confusion taken in a block was that the funds  
29 that we are asking for is for the purchase of new lands and not for the reimbursement for lands  
30 already purchased. The land to be purchased is as outlined in the letter that will be back in just a  
31 minute. That shows the four tracts and the estimated purchase cost of those four tracts and our  
32 options if all four tracts are not available to move forward with our wastewater sewer lines. This  
33 is for future land purchases by retroactive reimbursement.

34 MR. HARVILLE: I would like to back up what Todd said with Pittsylvania  
35 County and the City of Danville working together in this joint park. This is very crucial for us.  
36 This is the meat of the Southside area going into this regional park and having this large tract of  
37 land together. I can't begin to tell you in words how important it is that we go forward with this  
38 with the County and City. I urge you to give it every consideration you can. Hopefully the  
39 information presented today will clear up any confusion. We plead to you today to help us keep  
40 this regional park going. This is a really important endeavor in a regional effort and joint effort  
41 to try to keep moving forward.

42 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, my previous concern was based on  
43 the Staff recommendation.

44 MR. ARTHUR: The Staff's recommendation on this and as it stands now

1 with no funding based on the fact of lack of details, which have been provided to you here.

2 MR. OWENS: After reviewing the details was there a recommendation?

3 MR. ARTHUR: Yes.

4 MR. PFOHL: These are the critical pieces of information that were lacking  
5 on the original submission of the application. Our question was what specific parcels were you  
6 proposing to buy, or how much do they cost or are they assessed at, so that we have some  
7 reasonable assurance that this amount of money is what the Commission should obligate. With  
8 the limited amount of time that we have had to scan this letter, this is the kind of information that  
9 would help Staff be supportive of the land acquisition for the City of Danville, assuming it is  
10 consistent with the program guidelines. I have been assured by the City Manager, Mr. Yeatts,  
11 that these purchases will happen after the Commission's approval, assuming that occurs on May  
12 20th, so that would make the land purchase consistent with our program guidelines.

13 MR. ARTHUR: Does that answer your question, Delegate Wright?

14 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I take that to be a recommendation.

15 MR. PFOHL: Yes, sir.

16 MS. CUSHMAC: Clarify that, there are two different proposals. My  
17 concern was with the other project. A request was being made to pay for things that had already  
18 been purchased, and that might have been inconsistent with the guidelines.

19 MR. ERSKINE: Does that change?

20 MS. CUSHMAC: That was from the other proposal.

21 MR. ERSKINE: On the top of page twelve, this is the guideline?

22 MS. CUSHMAC: That is not this one, the one before that. The one that I  
23 had a problem with, page four, my understanding --

24 MR. ERSKINE: -- These two are not linked?

25 MR. ARTHUR: They are linked but not married.

26 MR. ERSKINE: Two separate sums we are talking about?

27 MS. CUSHMAC: Yes, two entirely different.

28 MR. PFOHL: The letter indicates that the four parcels that Danville is  
29 asking for their share have not yet been purchased. The statement in the letter from Mr. Sleeper  
30 says these are the tracts we would like to purchase next. Assuming the purchases happen after  
31 the Commission approval on May 20th and assuming the Commission is supportive of this, that  
32 would be consistent, and that would come out of Danville's allocation.

33 MR. YEATTS: Those tracts of land here are options, and they have not  
34 been purchased yet. These are future purchases to be made.

35 MR. ERSKINE: Page twelve is Pittsylvania, and that is the same regional  
36 industrial park. We accepted the Staff recommendation, and now we are on page four.

37 MR. BRYANT: I would like to make a motion. I would like to make a  
38 motion that we approve the funding that is requested by the City of Danville, five hundred fifty-  
39 one thousand eight eighty-nine.

40 MR. ARTHUR: The motion has been made and seconded that we approve  
41 the request from the City of Danville for the Phase II of the regional park as requested, five fifty-  
42 one eight eight nine. Any further discussion?

43 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I want to make it clear the Staff had recommended  
44 this and our Counsel approved it, we are not doing anything wrong.

1 MS. CUSHMAC: My approval is limited to, this is different from the other  
2 one that I raised a concern about.

3 MR. CURRIN: Mr. Pfohl pointed out the information is provided and  
4 meets, which I assume it does, meets all the factors in our application process. We can report to  
5 you in May, and we will have time to check it out, and if there is a problem, and if not we will be  
6 reporting this to the Full Commission at the meeting.

7 MR. OWENS: Mr. Chairman, we voted the first time to approve the joint  
8 project.

9 MR. ARTHUR: The block grant, and now we are going back to just the  
10 City of Danville.

11 MR. ERSKINE: The first vote was the block, and this is just for the City of  
12 Danville.

13 MR. ARTHUR: The question has been called for, all in favor signify by  
14 saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.) The City of Danville is approved.

15 I'd like to make a statement about Pittsylvania County. Pittsylvania County's money  
16 and the reason they got in this situation was that the Institute happens to be our marquis project  
17 in Southside Virginia, and they gave up voluntarily a considerable sum of money, which we took  
18 from the Institute to pay for internal wiring, telephones and et cetera. That put them behind the  
19 eight ball in meeting their requirements with the City of Danville on this phase of the joint  
20 industrial park. I was not quite aware of the policy of no reimbursement, and I told everybody in  
21 County management that. Sometimes you have to look at the greater good. I understand where  
22 we are and what we did, maybe we can find another way.

23 All right, Prince Edward County.

24 MS. CARNEY: I'm Sharon Carney, and I'm from Prince Edward County.  
25 We are before you to apply for two hundred thirty-one thousand eighty-one dollars to do the  
26 development of alternative Route 628. This is a critical part of the revitalization project that we  
27 want to get up and running. We have had a lot of interest in property in this area. We have been  
28 working very hard trying to get large revitalization and develop this project. As we speak we are  
29 going to add this to our enterprise zone program to bring all this together. I'm new at this, so  
30 bear with me. This is part of a very large project, and part of this includes widening of 15 just  
31 outside of the Farmville limits to the entrance to the industrial park, Prince Edward Industrial  
32 Park. 628 alternate runs to the other side of the road, and by adding it to our enterprise zone it  
33 can develop into office parks and some retail. This offers many opportunities. Prince Edward is  
34 trying to redefine their economic base from just industrial to have alternative forms of revenues.  
35 Prince Edward is in a position to bring itself in as a service center. We have a hospital there and  
36 two universities there, and we have these facilities and other parts of the region do not. So we  
37 want to develop this unique opportunity to add to that, and we respectfully request that you  
38 reconsider your vote.

39 DELEGATE HOGAN: Mr. Chairman, if I may, how fast are you moving  
40 along?

41 MS. CARNEY: We're moving along quickly, and we'd like to get the road  
42 in by the spring of 2005. With the engineering and architectural and VDOT we'll need to do that  
43 in the early part of the fall.

44 DELEGATE HOGAN: You got funding from three places, the Federal

1 Highway Administration, VDOT, and from the Commission.

2 MS. CARNEY: Yes, sir. The major part is coming from VDOT.

3 DELEGATE HOGAN: Other than this retail center, what would be served  
4 by this access road?

5 MS. CARNEY: There's a large tract of land as we move through called the  
6 Poplar Hill Project that includes a housing development, golf course, a hotel convention center,  
7 which will be on the tail-end of this. This is the first phase of a very large project coming  
8 through that area. And around that area we'd look for things like CPA firms and accounting firms  
9 and business parks and that sort of thing.

10 DELEGATE HOGAN: I think this proposal in terms of Lowe's and that  
11 sort of thing, that is something we categorically have not funded before. You need to get some  
12 clarification on some of the other things that are going on there and see if it fits in. Maybe we  
13 could have a meeting to discuss that before the Board meets.

14 MR. ARTHUR: We can have a meeting anytime.

15 DELEGATE HOGAN: I would ask that until we can get some additional  
16 information so we could have another quick meeting the morning of May 20th and see if we can  
17 do something, and if we can't do it then we can do it in September.

18 MR. ARTHUR: I don't have a problem doing it before the May meeting if  
19 everybody can be there, and if there's a quorum. So you're saying we will table this until we get  
20 more information?

21 DELEGATE HOGAN: Yes, until we get a little more information how this  
22 fits in.

23 SENATOR RUFF: I think I would second that to table it.

24 MR. ARTHUR: A motion has been made and seconded that we table this  
25 until the May meeting on the 20th to allow time to get more information. Any further  
26 discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye? (Ayes.) Opposed like sign? (No response.)  
27 We're going to table this, and thank you for presenting that information to us.

28 MS. CARNEY: Thank you for this opportunity.

29 MR. ARTHUR: If we have no further business here, does anyone out here  
30 in the audience have anything to say, or do you want to address the Committee? Hearing none,  
31 do I hear a motion for adjournment? So moved.

32  
33 PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED.  
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42 CERTIFICATE OF THE COURT REPORTER  
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44

1 I, Medford W. Howard, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public  
2 for the State of Virginia at large, do hereby certify that I was the court reporter who took down  
3 and transcribed the proceedings of the **Southside Economic Development Committee Meeting**  
4 **when held on Tuesday, May 11, 2004 at 1:30 p.m. at the Southern Virginia Higher**  
5 **Education Center, South Boston, Virginia.**

6 I further certify this is a true and accurate transcript to the best of my ability  
7 to hear and understand the proceedings.

8 Given under my hand this \_\_\_\_ day of June, 2004.  
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12 \_\_\_\_\_  
13 Medford W. Howard  
14 Registered Professional Reporter  
15 Notary Public for the State of Virginia at Large  
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21 My Commission Expires: October 31, 2006.  
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